

The Knoxville Independent

GEO. W. FORD, EDITOR.

718 GAY STREET.
OFFICE PHONE (OLD)296
RESIDENCE PHONE (OLD).....686

Entered at the postoffice at Knoxville, Tenn., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates, by mail, one year, \$1.00; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents; single copies, 2 cents.

"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA.
District 19.
Headquarters, Pineville, Ky.
Graysville, Tenn.

T. J. Smith President
Graysville, Tenn.
P. P. Lynch Vice President
Soddy, Tenn.
T. M. Gann Secretary-Treas.
Pineville, Ky.
INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER
John Jeffrey Pittsburg, Ky.
EXECUTIVE BOARD.
Geo. Brannan East Bernstadt, Tenn.
John McIlquhan Pittsburg, Ky.
Joe A. White E. Bernstadt, Ky.
Ben Delph Ar Jay, Ky.
Alf Martin Soddy, Tenn.

AUDITORS
Thomas Brown East Bernstadt, Ky.
Robert Gann Soddy, Tenn.
J. D. Tinsley Pittsburg, Ky.

TELLERS
Richard Lowe Jellico, Tenn.
J. D. Posey Soddy, Tenn.
Henry Patterson Pittsburg, Ky.

ORGANIZATION OF LABOR
T. J. Smith Graysville, Tenn.
Alf Martin Soddy, Tenn.
Thos. M. Gann Knoxville, Tenn.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR TENNESSEE
T. J. Smith Graysville, Tenn.
DELEGATE TO KENTUCKY FEDERATION OF LABOR
John Jeffrey Pittsburg, Ky.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR KENTUCKY
John McIlquhan Pittsburg, Ky.

BAKER EXPOSES GERMAN PLOT

Teuton Propagandists Try to Rouse Opposition Against Draft Among Colored People.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Secretary of War Baker exposed a campaign of German propagandists to stir up race feeling in the country and rouse opposition among colored people to the draft. In a memorandum addressed to Emmet J. Scott, special assistant in the war department, who has been assigned to look after the interests of colored soldiers, Secretary Baker said there would be no discrimination against the colored soldier, and that charges that such discrimination existed would be investigated.

ACTS TO STOP INFLATION

Federal Reserve Board at Washington Approves Increase in Discount Rate.

Washington, Dec. 6.—To discourage inflation and promote sound business conditions, the federal reserve board has approved a general increase in discount rates of about one-half per cent for most of the twelve federal reserve banks.

Five Bandits Get Away With \$10,000.

Chicago.—Five bandits robbing the Stockmen's Trust and Savings Bank in the stock yards district, of \$10,000 or more, and drove away in an automobile. The president of the bank and seven employees were herded into a back room while the robbers rifled the safe.

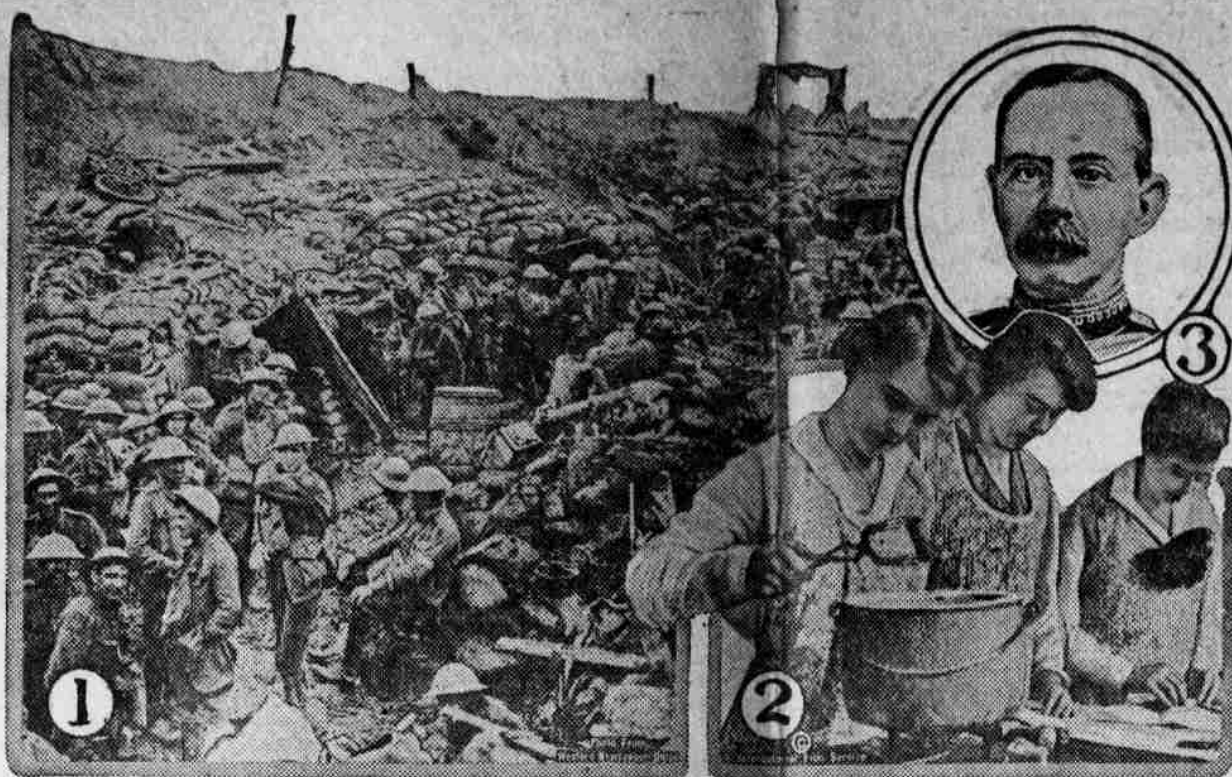
U.S. SHIPS TO MEDITERRANEAN

American Destroyers Soon Will Be Operating Everywhere There Is Work to Do.

Washington, Dec. 6.—American destroyers soon will be operating in the Mediterranean. A high official made this admission when he said: "United States destroyers are or soon will be everywhere that enemy submarines are at work."

Recruiting Record.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Regular army recruiting Tuesday reached the highest point since the United States entered the world war, when 2,934 recruits were accepted.



1—Scene at a divisional headquarters of the British during one of the big battles on the west front. 2—Members of an American college girls' trench candle brigade making candles of rolled paper balled in paraffin. 3—Gen. Herbert C. O. Plumer, appointed commander of the British forces sent to aid the Italians.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Interallied War Conference in Paris Opens With Russia the Big Topic.

LENINE DEALS WITH BOCHES

Germans Accept Bolshevik Proposal of Armistice—Signs of Collapse of Radical "Government"—Italian Crisis Considered Over—Supreme War Council for United States.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The great interallied war conference opened in Paris on Thursday and the world is justified in expecting momentous results from it, though they may not be immediately evident.

Aside from the question of unified control of the war, one of the most important matters considered by the conference, of course, was the Russian situation. This was rapidly moving to a climax, for during the week the representatives of the bolshevik government crossed over to the German side and made their proposition of an armistice on all fronts of the belligerent countries. Since this plan coincides with Germany's desires and doubtless was inspired by her, the German authorities accepted the suggestion and set December 2 for a conference on the subject. Meanwhile members of the German general staff were in Petrograd advising Lenin and Trotsky.

The conference in Paris took under consideration the issuance of a "reasonable statement for the guidance and warning of the Russians as to the serious results that are likely to follow if a separate peace is concluded," to quote the conservative language of Lord Robert Cecil. This means nothing less than that the Petrograd radicals, and Russia if they are able to impose their will on the country, will be recognized as enemies of the allied nations. The ambassadors of the allies and of the United States were said to be waiting for the meeting of the Russian constituent assembly, elections for which were held last week though the results were not known at the time of writing.

Hope in Southeastern Russia.

There are growing indications that, when the froth and spume of the present bolshevik revolution in Russia have blown away, the original revolutionists of last March, men like Millyukoff, who have brains and experience as well as ideals, will come to the surface again and regain a control that may save their distracted country from the talons of the Prussian eagle.

The beginning of the end for Lenin was reported to have come on Friday, when, according to dispatches from Petrograd, his cabinet was succeeded by a coalition ministry of advanced Socialists and other factions, with the Bolsheviks in the minority.

Despite the fact that the second and fifth armies last week gave their adherence to the Bolshevik "government," Lenin and Trotsky have shown no slightest evidence of their ability to rule Russia, and whether or not they be knowingly agents of Germany, their actions are all for the benefit of the central powers. If the armistice they ask for were followed by the kind of peace they advocate, Russia would lie open to Germany as a ripe field for merciless exploitation and the Germans would gain infinitely more than they possibly would lose in western Europe.

The hopefulness in the situation lies far away from Petrograd. A great organization known as the Southeastern union has been formed, embracing the Don territory, most of Little Russia, the lower Volga region and Turkestan. This is the great grain-growing part of Russia, the territory that feeds the rest, and steps are being taken to add to the union the corn-producing part of Siberia. In all this territory, roughly speaking, General Kaledines, herman of the Cossacks, is in control, and he, in turn, is controlled by leaders

who have not yielded to the dictation of Lenin and his bolsheviks. Moreover, the immense gold reserve of the Russian empire, which was removed from Petrograd to the Kremlin in 1913, has been taken still further into the interior and is out of the reach of the maximalists. Whether Kaledines and the Cossacks will choose to support the social democrats or will aid in a restoration of the monarchy is not clear. But sane friends of order, democracy and freedom feel that anything would be better than the reign of anarchy and civil war that threatens Russia now.

The soldiers who remain at the front are walling bitterly because of the shortage of food, and there is a fine prospect of hundreds of thousands of these fighting men turning back into their country half-starved and ready to pillage and ravage it without restraint.

Italy's Danger Lessened.

The heroic Italian troops having demonstrated their ability to hold back about four times as many Teutons along the Piave front, the fears of a more extended invasion of Italy and of the capture of Venice are lessened. During the week great numbers of reinforcements arrived from the British and French armies on the west front, many of them having marched eight days through the mountains. They brought with them ample artillery and supplies. Italian reserves in great masses, young, well-equipped and full of spirit, also moved north to reinforce those who have been combating the invaders, and in some places the Italians took the offensive. The fighting, especially between the Piave and the Brenta, continued fierce and unrelenting throughout the week, and the losses on both sides were heavy, but the Austro-Germans made no further gains. Down toward the Adriatic they made repeated attempts to cross the river and the flooded lands in pontoons, but were completely routed by the Italian artillery. As the week closed the situation in Italy was still serious, but improving each day.

Gen. F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations in the British war office, was especially well satisfied with the week's developments in Italy. From the fact that Germany had not brought up vast reinforcements to follow up the initial success with a decisive blow, he concluded that Germany was unable to send them. It is now time, he declared, to say definitely that the German army in Italy has passed, this being entirely to the efforts of the Italian army. "Anglo-French troops are now available in sufficient quantities to satisfy us that the situation is secure," he concluded.

Hard Fighting Around Cambrai.

The war has seen no more desperate fighting than has followed on the heels of General Byng's sensational thrust toward Cambrai. Crown Prince Rupprecht seemed determined not to let that city fall into the hands of the British, or at least to make it a costly prize, and his constantly re-entered troops were sent against the British in Bourlon wood again and again and in the village of Fontaine, which changed hands several times. Byng's men held on tenaciously and usually had the best of it in the hand-to-hand fighting as well as in the artillery combats, and the tanks continued to play their part. These monsters often cleared the way for the infantry, and in at least one instance, when they were themselves held up by superior forces, the British airmen, flying daringly low, routed the enemy with machine gun fire and permitted the tanks to go on. Altogether, it has been the most spectacular battle of the war, and it has cost the Germans a great many of their best men.

General Byng last week seemed to be endeavoring to break through to the north of Cambrai, a movement that probably would compel the enemy to fall back on a wide front. Cambrai itself seems doomed to destruction.

General Pershing last week sent over his second casualty list. It gave the names of two privates who were killed in the trenches by German artillery fire and of five severely wounded.

U. S. Supreme War Council.

While urgently advising upon our allies more unified action in the prosecution of the war, the administration is not overlooking the need for similar co-ordinated effort at home. On Tuesday a great step toward centralized control of all the country's resources

was taken in the appointment of a superior war council through which all the war activities of the government will be enabled to work together. This council is made up of the members of the council of national defense—Secretaries Baker, Daniels, Lane, Houston, Redfield and Wilson—Secretary McAdoo, Chairman Hurley of the shipping board, Food Administrator Hoover, Fuel Administrator Garfield and Chairman Willard of the war industries board. Director Gifford of the council of national defense will sit with this superior council, and President Wilson will meet with it whenever he thinks it advisable.

The government is making a determined effort to settle the troubles of the railways and its own problems in the matter of transportation, and just now the plan of a railroad pool for all lines east of Chicago is being tried out. If this is not successful, it is predicted, the government may take over the operation of all American railways.

President Wilson proclaimed a new embargo on the importation of many articles that are essentials of munitions of war, without the express permission of the government. This will operate to conserve American tonnage for war purposes and to facilitate the importation of raw materials and other supplies necessary in the manufacture of munitions. This assumption of control over imports, provided for in the embargo act, gives the government a powerful weapon for the economic war on Germany and can be directed also against neutral traders suspected of supplying the central powers with American goods.

President Wilson on Monday approved a recommendation of Mr. Hoover reducing the alcoholic content of beer to 3 per cent and reducing the amount of grain used by brewers to about 70 per cent of the volume hitherto consumed. Prohibition of all brewing, the administration believes, would divert tipplers from the comparatively harmless beer to the consumption of whisky, brandy and gin, of which there is in the country enough to last several years.

No War on Austria Yet.

Vigorous enforcement of the orders restricting enemy aliens made things rather lively last week for German residents, especially of the large cities. But the hope that the administration would make easier the checking of espionage by having congress declare war on Austria went glimmering. For reasons which could not be made public, President Wilson and his cabinet agreed that no declaration against the dual monarchy should be made unless it commits some further especially hostile acts. The president pointed out the fact that the enemy alien law could be amended to include the subjects of countries allied with Germany, as was done in the trading with the enemy act, and Attorney General Gregory at once began the preparation of such an amendment.

Vatican Replies to Critics.

Unusually bold criticism of the course of the Vatican by a number of papers, and assertions that the pope had been fostering the cause of Austria, had been far from neutral and should be called on to make his position clear, brought forth indignant denial from Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary of state. Said he: "To say that his holiness favors, or has favored, or will favor an unjust, un-Christian, and unendurable peace is not only false but also absurd. Any propaganda for such a peace, alleged to be conducted at the Vatican's inspiration, especially in certain nations, is the product of pure maliciousness."

He asserted that the disruptive propaganda that began to affect the morale of the Italian army could not be laid at the doors of the Vatican, and that "the shoulders on which rests the responsibility for the reverses are well-known, a responsibility which certainly does not touch Catholics, the clergy and least of all the august person of the sovereign pontiff."

His eminence made no reference to the Sinn Fein rebellion in Ireland.

One of the first matters taken up by the interallied conference in Paris was the need of speedy diplomatic action in regard to Switzerland, where German intrigue is imperiling the neutrality of the country and gaining economical domination through control of the Swiss railways. The Swiss federal council is becoming anxious over German military movements on the frontier.



Run up Old Glory!

Let it blaze

In red and white against the sky
And tell the story of the days
When hearts were stout and hopes were high
Forget the daily fights of greed,
Forget the struggles, the dismay
Of facing cruelty and need—
Run up Old Glory for the day.

Run up Old Glory!

Think of all

The old flag means to you and me,
Of how the blast of freedom's call
Shook out its folds from sea to sea,
Red with the blood that it has cost,
White with the souls of them that died—
To-day by laughing breezes tossed
It whispers of a nation's pride.

Run up Old Glory!

Fling it forth

And feel anew the country-call
That thrills East, West and South and North
And has its word for one and all
Run up Old Glory—fling it far
Across the blue of heaven's dome,
And feel that every stripe and star
Is warder of your hearth and home.



(Copyright, 1917, by W. D. Nesbit.)

STAUBS THEATRE

Union Employees

Tuesday Night December 11

AMERICA'S SINGING COMEDIAN

AL. H. WILSON

IN A NEW MILITARY SONG PLAY

THE IRISH 15th

A FEAST OF SONG, JOLLITY AND PLEASURE

"MADE IN AMERICA"

"Made In Europe"
No Longer!

Merchants and consumers the country over are quickly picking up the slogan "Made In America."

They see in it more money for America, and that means for themselves. Friends, learn not only to do without costly imported goods, but to demand home-made goods entirely. It'll pay you. Join the movement now!

Italy Loses Five Ships.

Rome.—Losses of Italian shipping from submarine activity during the week were one steamer of more than 1,500 tons, one under that tonnage and three small sailing vessels, it was officially announced.

Send Us Your Job Printing.

Citizenship Denied to Austrians.

Cleveland, O.—Federal Judge Westenhaver ruled that subjects of Austria-Hungary no longer may become citizens. Judge Westenhaver instructed the court clerk to notify 75 Austrians, who were to take the oath of citizenship in Federal court, not to appear.